

# the NATIVE VOICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIVE BROTHERHOOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, INC.

L-No. 1.

VANCOUVER, B.C., DECEMBER, 1946

PRICE 10 CENTS

## THE INDIANS ACT

[EDITORIAL]

In this initial presentation of "The Native Voice" to the people of British Columbia, we intend that the voice of the original Canadian will open a new era for our people who have been given to keep in step with all ranks in the march of time. And in this atomic age where progress is measured for mankind the world over by scientific discoveries of learned people, and by their individual and co-operative methods have the power to make this so-called Christian world a haven of comfort for every human being in existence.

"The Native Voice" will assert at the beginning the firm objectives at which we aim and hope to achieve in the not too distant future. An objective which will mean an honest guarantee of equality for the original inhabitants and owners of Canada. In Canada (A Canada) where under the Indian Act we suffer as a minority race and as wards, or minors without voice in regard to our own welfare. We are prisoners of a controlling power in our own country—a country that has stood under the chaos of two world wars, beneath the guise of democracy and freedom, yet keeping enslaved a Native people their own home land.

Charity begins at home and it is up to those in control to keep the steps of Parliament clean and bring into being a real democratic Canada, with freedom for all races—a Canada of which we can be proud. At this time, our Dominion is not in a position to point a finger of scorn at the treatment meted out to other countries toward their people, until she liberates her original and subjected race.

We are in the position of the poor man mentioned in the fable who lived off the crumbs that fell from the rich man's plate. This is particularly galling to us as the table and what on it was at one time exclusively our own and we intend to demand our rightful positions on terms of equality with our fellow Canadians.

A square deal for the Native Canadians will mean a revolutionary change in so far as the Native peoples are concerned. We must be granted the status to which we are entitled by treaty—a status that should have been in existence for many years past and which will mean a free people in our own Dominion of Canada, susceptible to the influence of none.

The NATIVE VOICE will follow through with their aims and objectives with the co-operation of the Government, as they see fit. Those aims are stated clearly by the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia Inc. in their Constitution.

1. "To work for the betterment of conditions, socially, spiritually and economically for its people.
2. To encourage and bring about a communication and co-operation between the white people and Native Canadians.
3. To join with the Government and its officials and with all those who have at heart the welfare of the Natives of British Columbia and for the betterment of all conditions surrounding the lives and homes of the natives."

The NATIVE VOICE has definite aspirations within its pages. Our views are undenominational and non-political and are welcome to use the freedom of the press within the pages of the NATIVE VOICE.

We do intend to have changed the attitude and governing methods employed at present in respect to the code at present in use. Methods that should have been voluntarily changed by one of the successive governments of the past on their own initiative, instead of waiting for the challenge of protest, that we heard now. The protest is not calculated to opening past wrongs, but a long awaited signal, that means, LET'S BE CANADIANS and recognized as human beings.

The NATIVE VOICE, while invading the privileged sanctum of the press, heretofore not occupied by our people, does find it necessary to apologize for its efforts which will be a long awaited stimulant leading toward a better way of life for all the Native people in Canada. News and views will be presented in our own way, catering always to the Native people, still, broad enough to realize that all people are human and are inclined to err, and with this thought in mind we would appreciate any comments from all races. We expect to have full co-operation with those who will meet us in a straightforward manner.

(Continued on Page 7)



Chief Wm. D. Scow, Alert Bay, B.C., President of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia.

### President's Message

As President of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia, I most urgently appeal to all Native people to give their full support to the NATIVE VOICE.

For many years we have discussed the ways and means of having a paper for ourselves but unfortunately never did progress beyond the discussion stage. Now we have started. We have established ourselves and will go forward. Through our NATIVE VOICE we will continue to the best of our ability to bind closer together the many tribes whom we represent into that solid NATIVE VOICE, a voice that will work for the advancement of our own common native welfare.

The NATIVE VOICE will bring about a closer relationship between ourselves and our good white friends who we also appeal to at this time for their support in our struggle for advancement.

It is not my purpose at this writing to go into any details about the needs and problems that confront us native people as we in our own different villages and communities are conversant with the special problems that confront us locally. Through the NATIVE VOICE we will blend the whole of our problems into a common meeting ground for the discussion of whatever action that is necessary to benefit the well-being of all natives in B.C.

We will work together. The NATIVE VOICE will be the voice of the Native Brotherhood of B.C. in action which in turn is the voice for ALL the natives in B.C.

I appeal to all Branches of the Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood to see that news and material of interest is sent into your paper regularly. Regular correspondents must be appointed by each branch for the purpose of furnishing the news and views promptly. This is your job and mine, so please let us work for the 25,000 natives in B.C., but will finally form the basis of amalgamating the entire Native races of the Dominion into the powerful Brotherhood and Sisterhood that will finally talk with the solid expression of authority to all those whom we must confront on native problems. ALL POWER TO THE NATIVE VOICE.

## THE "INDIAN ACT"

The year 1946 saw the start on a change to the Indian which has been in force in Canada since the year 1868. A special joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons to act on the long overdue "new deal" that is to come.

The resolution for the formulation of this joint committee was debated and passed early in May of this year.

The orders of the committee by way of resolution was:

Resolved—That a joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons be appointed to examine and consider the Indian Act, Chapter 98, R.S.C., 1927, and amendments thereto and to suggest such amendments as they may deem advisable, with authority to investigate and report upon Indian administration in general and, in particular,

1. Treaty rights and obligations.
2. Band membership.
3. Liability of Indians to pay taxes.
4. Enfranchisement of Indians both voluntary and involuntary.
5. Eligibility of Indians to vote at Dominion elections.
6. The encroachment of white persons on Indian Reserves.
7. The operation of Indian Day and Residential Schools.
8. And any other matter or thing pertaining to the social and economic status of Indians and their advancement, which, in the opinion of such a committee should be incorporated in the revised Act.

During the remainder of the session of the House, approximately two and a half months, the joint committee held 25 meetings, most of the witnesses appearing being Department of Indian Affairs officials or other government department heads or their officials.

An exception was made in their agenda when the chairman of the legislative committee of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia Inc., Brother Peter R. Kelly, appeared in Ottawa to place a preliminary report, also to establish identity for the Native Brotherhood of B.C. in Canadian Indian

affairs and the lead they among the British Columbia Indians.

A digest of Brother Kelly's report will be found in another issue of this paper.

The special committee facing the difficulties in sight, previously adopted a plan of procedure that would stretch out hearing of witnesses giving evidence to cover the session of 1946 to the hearing of Government department officials (Exceptions were made.)

The 1947 session would be voted to the hearing of Indian church and other organizations individuals wishing to appear before them.

The 1948 session would be voted to the revision of the INDIAN ACT.

During the sessions which covered many voluminous reports from department officials the special committee decided:

The hearing of department officials has disclosed the need for certain IMMEDIATE administrative improvements which be effected without the revision of any existing legislation, and when put into effect, will remove some of the causes out of which have arisen grievances and complaints of many Indians.

In order not to break the continuity of the work envisaged the Orders of Reference, a Committee hereunder makes certain recommendations to cover period of the coming recess Parliament.

(Continued on Page 7)

## Canadian Indian Girls Train in New Zealand

Two Canadian Indian girls have recently made an important step in the annals of human welfare when they journeyed to far off New Zealand to take a special course in maternity nursing.

Miss Martha Soonias from Saskatchewan and Miss Doreen Gladstone from Alberta are now installed at St. Helen's Hospital, Wellington, N.Z., where they will undergo a special two years' course in their chosen field of nursing.

The girls have already had a year's training in their chosen profession at the Canadian Mothercraft Hospital at Toronto.

It is interesting to know that the curriculum used at the St. Helen's Hospital embraces the methods of the late Sir Truby King which he developed at Karatanae, methods so far advanced in their special field that they were the principal factor in putting New Zealand at the top of the list for better babies and low mortality for years.

**PROGRESSIVE RACE**  
The two Canadian girls will be in direct contact with the most progressive Native race in the world. The Maori race of New

Zealand has shown the world that they are able to hold their own in this world of progress. The natives have their own members of parliament; they also have their own native members in many of the leading professions in the sister Dominion.

It is hoped that our two Indian girls will write to us relating our readers their own impressions regarding their stay in a distant Dominion.

The most encouraging angle of the whole picture regarding progressive-minded girls is their avowed determination to WORK AMONG THEIR OWN PEOPLE when they return to Canada.

It will be the duty of The Native Brotherhood of B.C. to keep close touch with the girls and to it that our Department of Indian Affairs at Ottawa has available in advance the proper positions that will enable our young Indian nurses to put into practice use for our Native people valuable experience they have gained in their special line of human welfare work.





**Creating A New Chief** In this photo, taken during Vancouver's Diamond Jubilee celebration, Chief William Scow, president of the Native Brotherhood of B.C., places the colorful Thunderbird headdress on Canadian Governor-General Alexander, during a ceremony in which the governor-general was created Chief Nakupunkim The Brave. First white person to be accorded this honor of being made a full-fledged chief by coast Indians with complete tribal rites, he expressed his pleasure at the honor, which also conferred upon His Excellency the position as Honorary Life President of the Native Brotherhood of B.C.

## GREETINGS and SUCCESS

to

## "The Native Voice"

ANSWERING A LONG-FELT NEED

## The Wigwam

314 Granville Street

Vancouver, B.C.



BUYERS AND SELLERS OF INDIAN GOODS

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### CARE OF FISHING NET PAYS DIVIDENDS

Fishing nets rot three times faster near the mouth of the Fraser than they do in Nanaimo waters. This was observed in the current survey of the British Columbia Research Council of methods for reducing the rapid deterioration of fishing gear. This rapid loss of strength of nets and lines in sea water is the cause of considerable expense to British Columbia fishermen. The life of a linen gill net is as short as forty days.

Although nets are usually soaked in a preservative before use, no very satisfactory type is now available. Some actually reduce the life of the material. To find superior methods for increasing the life of equipment, the British Columbia Research Council is testing the effect of a wide variety of compounds on the strength of the material. The results of exposure of the nets and lines to the weather are also being studied.

Besides increasing the life of the net, the preservative treatment should preferably improve other qualities. For example, the color of the treated net should blend with the water to be invisible to the fish. Also, the net should be stiffened very slightly for improved handling. Through research the fisherman can look forward to better equipment and higher profits.

## Viscount Alexander is First White Chief

Kitsilano Indian Village was the scene of the most unusual and unique event of the recent DIAMOND JUBILEE celebrations held at Vancouver, B.C., this summer.

Viscount Alexander, Governor-General of Canada, at that time accepted the position as Honorary Life President of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia at the same ceremony that made His Excellency the first white man in the history of British Columbia to have conferred upon him a full Chieftainship of B.C. Indians, bestowed upon him by the powerful British Columbia Brotherhood through President Chief Wm. Scow.

The function was witnessed by thousands of spectators, many who had waited hours, entertained in the meantime by Native Dances performed by different coastal tribes.

His Excellency was met at the Village gate by Chief August Jack Khatsalano, Supreme Chieftain, and from there escorted to a specially prepared dais, surrounded by tribal torch bearers. The Governor-General then knelt before Chief Wm. Scow, President of the Native Brotherhood of B.C., who performed the rites in Native tongue conferring the Honorary Presidency of the Native Brotherhood of B.C. while accepting His Excellency into the Chieftainship conferring upon him the distinguished name of CHIEF NAKAPUNKIM.

### Warrior Chief

The name of Chief Nakapunkim dates back about 150 years ago when the original Nakapunkim was an outstanding leader of the coast Indians, not only for his ability as a warrior but as a serious thinker

of his time that made him a jealous guardian of the rights of the Native people in a day when the early white companies and settlers were aggressively encroaching upon the lands of original inhabitants.

The powerful Kwakwaka'wakw Chieftain was reported to be a man of small stature whose ability in dealing with his enemies besides his role as protector of his people in peaceful times made him an outstanding figure in all deliberations affecting the lives of coastal Indians.

### Family of Chiefs

In his reply of acceptance His Excellency reported that his grandfather a hundred years previous had been made a Chief of the powerful Blackfoot tribe of prairie Indians. The honor that was conferred upon His Excellency would be shared with his family.

The Governor-General presented to the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia through President Chief Wm. Scow in commemoration of the event, a framed autographed picture of His Excellency in full military dress.

The newly-installed Chief, incidentally the thousands of spectators, were treated to the spectacle of famous Indian dances never before performed before the eyes of white men. In fact, some of the dances were such a secret nature that even many of the hundreds of Indians present had not witnessed nor any previous knowledge of stories or legends behind them. No written record in any language has ever been made.

### Totem Maker

Even while the ceremony was in progress, master totem maker Mungo Martin, with his skillful helpers, were busily engaged in putting finishing touches to the foot totem pole that was presented to the newly-installed Chief as part of the ceremony.

Mungo Martin had worked on a cedar log in full view of daily visitors, who proved to be interesting and curious spectators to form the finished product was a masterpiece of carving created in record time.

**Translation of Illuminated Address**  
The following is a copy of the translation of the text which the original was signed by the British Columbia Chiefs:

"I hereby declare before the people assembled, the desire of the Indian people of the Brotherhood of British Columbia to confer the title of Honorary Chieftainship upon one—Viscount ALEXANDER—of Tunis and Errigla the county of Donegal, G.O.B., M.G., G.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., C.O.A.D.C., Governor-General of Canada: whereby Viscount Alexander did conduct himself and prove himself as a great leader and great warrior for the causes dear to peaceful and democratic nations and win the respect of Indian peoples over which he held command in His Majesty's armed forces during World War II, and did, out of winning gratitude and respect of the Indian peoples, earn for himself this highest honor the Indian Nation can give. From this thirteenth of July, one thousand nine hundred and forty-six, you shall be known as Chief NAKAPUNKIM 'Great Warrior,' and we, the undersigned, set our hand to wit that these things are so. Concomitant with the above, His Excellency—Viscount ALEXANDER—Governor-General of Canada, duly registered with the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia as First Honorary Life President

### TEACHERS UP NORTH

Editor, The Native Voice:

Dear Sir:

Just a brief review of our trip to this far Northern Indian village of Canyon City on the Nass River. Incidentally, I will be glad to do what I can in getting the people to take your paper. Just at the moment we are very busy with the school and other duties but in the near future I will attend to this matter.

We have thirteen at our school and a jolly lot they are.

Edward Azak and his wife Nora brought up here from Kinkolith, we stayed overnight with Brother Clark the Postmaster at Mill Bay who, with his daughter, made us very comfortable. At seven-thirty the next morning we boarded the Canyon City boat and started our days journey. The river was a little rough to start with but we had a good pilot and so we knew we knew no fear.

After a few hours we stopped the boat and Edward lit the stove (Gaw) and Nora made good coffee for us all, it was very hot and good.

We arrived at Canyon City about four o'clock and found a nice little house waiting for us. We got settled a little and then the Native people started to make us feel at home. They sent us a fish and some potatoes and they came to see if the stove was working right and many other little acts of kindness which made us feel that those Canyon City people really wanted a white teacher among them, and so we started out to try and be a means of help and blessing to the people of Canyon City.

Our Native people also shot two bears this week and we were fortunate enough to have a piece given to us.

I think this covers a good part of our trip and you will be hearing from us later.

VIOLET J. WALKER,  
Canyon City, via Mill Bay P.O.



# OTTAWA REPORT

By P. R. KELLY

Chairman, Legislative Committee, Native Brotherhood of B.C.

On May 13th last, as you all must know, a Bill was introduced in Parliament by the Hon. J. A. Glen, Minister of Mines and Resources, that a joint committee would be appointed to revise the Indian Act and examine the whole life and anything that pertains to the welfare of the Indians of Canada.

The aim of the bill is to be a Magna Carta for the Indians.

Your chairman communicated with the Hon. Glen regarding the organization of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia appearing before the joint committee. A letter was received later which stated, "when dates were fixed" the delegation would be advised.

After waiting some period of time your chairman wired Ottawa again, stating out the desirability of arriving at some definite understanding as to the time of the delegation leaving for Ottawa. The reply received was very indefinite.

In the meantime your brotherhood delegation was ready and waiting in Vancouver. After careful study of the situation, your legislative committee decided that it was the duty of your chairman to proceed forthwith to Ottawa to explain to the committee the views and directions of the Native Brotherhood of B.C. REPRESENTATIVES

The members of the delegation consisted of the last convention held at Port Simpson, B.C. last March included: Chief Wm. Scow, President; Thomas Gosnell, Treasurer; R. Williams, Business Agent; Rev. P. R. Kelly, Chairman of the Legislative Committee.

Accordingly your chairman left Ottawa on June 23rd. Arriving Ottawa on the 27th, I was able to make an appearance before the committee. My main purpose in appearing was not to give evidence but to get a definite understanding from the committee regarding the appearance of our Native Brotherhood of B.C. representatives, also to discuss the possibilities of retaining counsel in the preparation of a brief.

On July 4th I attended another session of the joint committee. I was requested to give my views on behalf of the organization.

Due to the fact that the joint committee had established rules whereby only Government departments and officials would present petitions at that session, I believe that I may say that your

## Hospital For Native People

The official opening of the new Millar Bay Hospital took place recently at Prince Rupert, B.C. A representative gathering of speakers were present and the official opening was done by Dr. Barclay of the Coqualeetza Hospital of Sardis, B.C.

Your correspondent in going through the building was very

much impressed with the appointments which are of the best.

Among the speakers were H. A. Archibald, M.P., as well as the local M.L.A., Mr. Brett. Some of the speakers expressed the hope that this was the forerunner of the efforts of the Government of Canada in their responsibilities for the care and welfare of the Indians of Canada.

Representing the B.C. Indians was Chief Councillor Livingstone

Kelly of Port Simpson, B.C., spoke on behalf of the Native people.

The hospital in itself will for one hundred and fifty patients when fully manned but at present time, owing to the lack of staff, they are only able to treat seventy-five patients.

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## Greetings

to the

# "NATIVE VOICE"

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VANCOUVER, B.C.

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# The Native Voice

The Voice of the Native Canadian

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## PUBLICATION DATES

The directors of THE NATIVE VOICE regret the delay in bringing out the first issue of your VOICE.

The trials and troubles of breaking into the ranks of journalism for Native people had not been fully appreciated; nor we anticipated the responsibilities that would be heaped on your organization when the start was made. However, in spite of the fact that we are not satisfied with the publication of your paper only once a month, we have now decided to hold to that policy for the first few issues at least. We hope that in the near future some of the pressing difficulties will be satisfactorily adjusted so that we go forward on our aim in issuing THE NATIVE VOICE twice a month.

## NEWS re "INDIAN ACT"

The future welfare of our Native people which will be aided in the forthcoming changes to The Indian Act make imperative that the pages of The Native Voice in this and following issues devote largely to reviewing and discussing whole important issue. A brief will be presented for the Indians by The Native Brotherhood of B.C. Inc. at proper time. In the meantime, there has been so much material gathered by other Indian organizations in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba that we feel the contents of those efforts will be of great value to many of our B.C. tribes. Not only that, but a solid front of Western Canada Indians is most desirable. Cordial relationship with the Indian Association of Alberta, The Union of Saskatchewan Indians and The Native Brotherhood of B.C. has already been established. The future will bind us closer.

## UNITED NATIONS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

EXECUTIVE: THE NATIVE BROTHERHOOD OF B.C., INC.

Honorary Life President.....Viscount Alexander, Gov.-Gen. of Canada  
President.....Chief Wm. D. Scow, Alert Bay, B.C.

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Northern Interior District.....Wallace Morgan, Kitwanga, B.C.  
Central Coast District.....George N. Wilson, Bella Bella, B.C.  
Alert Bay District.....Henry Speck, Alert Bay, B.C.  
Northern Coast District.....Charlie Peters, Cape Mudge, B.C.  
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South West Coast District.....Tom Shewish, Alberni, B.C.  
Fraser Valley District.....Oscar D. Peters, Katz, B.C.  
Vancouver District.....Wm. Pascal, Creek Side, B.C.  
Secretary.....Herbert Cook, Alert Bay, B.C.  
Treasurer.....Thomas Gosnell, Port Simpson, B.C.  
Indian Legislative Committee.....Peter R. Kelly, Ocean Falls, B.C.  
Northern Business Agent.....William Beynon, Port Edward, B.C.  
Southern Business Agent.....Guy R. Williams, Vancouver, B.C.

## From the Dept. of Indian Affairs

should like to extend hearty congratulations to the Native Brotherhood on its entry into the field of journalism at a time when there is the greatest need for a paper thinking particularly in those lines of endeavor involving the welfare of the Indian people and their position within the State. This venture suggests that the Indians themselves are beginning to realize that there is room for their active participation on their part in the rapid acceleration of their adjustment to this age and that real progress must largely come from within and not from outside influences.

In this field your organization effectively demonstrate its greatest value by the example of members and the tone and manner of its published propaganda. We felt that the sound discernment common to the Indian people will be reflected in the col-

## From the Premier of British Columbia

The establishment of a publication to present the views of our Native Indians is a very commendable and worthwhile effort, and, I feel sure, it will do much to bring the attention of the public to the various problems confronting the Native Indians of British Columbia.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my warmest congratulations upon this endeavor and to wish all those associated with it every success.

JOHN HART.

columns of "The Native Voice" and that it will be an effective instrument in assisting in promoting the advancement of the Indian people.

With best wishes for the success of your paper,

Yours faithfully,

D. M. MacKay,  
Indian Commissioner for B.C.

# CONGRATULATIONS

## MEET THE EDITOR



Editor Jack Beynon is a member of the Wolf Clan, Tsimpshean Tribe of Port Simpson, B.C. A veteran of World War I, he is able to get around only with the aid of crutches. Has devoted years of his time to Indian affairs and problems through the office of The Native Brotherhood of B.C. at Vancouver.

## A GENERAL'S TRIBUTE

"During World War II it was my privilege to have a number of Indian fighting men under my command. It therefore gives me pleasure to send you a greeting at this time through the pages of the "Native Voice."

The Indians made a great contribution in our fight for freedom and it is my opinion that they carried out the fine fighting traditions of their forefathers. I feel that the record of Corporal Frederick Webster, M.M., is symbolic of the spirit of your people and worthy of the finest traditions of your race.

Corporal Webster impressed me in the early training days in England as being a fine soldier, but it was during the battle of Agira in Sicily that he conducted himself in a manner that calls for the highest praise. He was a Bren Gunner in "A" Company, the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, and during the critical period following the capture of Grizzly Hill, showed great personal courage

and determination in providing covering fire for his section. With complete disregard for his own personal safety he exposed himself to enemy fire, on occasion standing at full height in order to carry out his task. For this gallant action he was awarded the military Medal and became one of the great heroes of the entire operation. He was wounded in October 1944 during the battle of the Savio River and invalidated home.

You are just proud of this and many other fine exploits of your men overseas and it is important that you should continue to perpetuate this fine spirit of your people. These deeds and the deeds of your forefathers should serve as a fine example to your young people who must determine to be worthy at all times of these traditions; to be strong in peace as in war, in other words to continue to be fine Canadian citizens.

Good health and good luck to you all."

B. M. HOFFMEISTER,  
Major-General.

## From the IWA Chinese Organizer

Native Brotherhood of B.C.,  
16 E. Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Brothers:

I deem it as a great honor in bringing greetings to you from the Chinese workers, employed in the different industries throughout this province, on the opening publication of your official organ, "The Voice of Native Brotherhood." The Chinese being one of the minority groups in B.C. have problems which are in many respect similar to those of yours. I refer to such urgent problems as the raising of the standard of living and education to the same level as that of our fellow white Canadians, in order that we may have truly a melting pot that is Canada. In

this respect I am glad to say that you have shown steady progress of which there is every justification for self-pride.

With the birth of this new publication, "The Voice of Native Brotherhood," you will have a further instrument with which to voice your hope and aspiration for a better and fuller life for your people; a noble aim that will command the sympathy and good wishes of freemen everywhere.

On behalf of the Chinese people I, too, would like to add my voice in wishing you every success in this worthy undertaking.

Fraternally yours.

ROY MAH,  
District Representative, IWA, CIO.

## B.C. Indian Arts and Welfare Society

c/o Provincial Museum  
Victoria, B.C.,  
October 23, 1946.

Mr. Jack Beynon,  
Editor, THE NATIVE VOICE  
508-509 Holden Building,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beynon:

It is indeed a pleasure for members of this Society to tend to you and to the staff of THE NATIVE VOICE our congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the first issue of this new paper. We are greatly pleased to know that such a publication has been started and wish it every success.

We believe that your people, Natives of British Columbia, are about to enter a new era. The world as a whole is striving for peace and better living conditions for all people. Our Government is passing laws to bring about contentment and prosperity throughout Canada. A special commission is working in Ottawa at the present time to make recommendations regarding a revision of the Indian Act so that the Indians of Canada will also be able to enjoy the life.

The Indians of this Province should see that now is the time to make representation to the Government regarding recommendations they would like to make. be effective such recommendations should come from the Indian Brotherhood of British Columbia as a whole and not from individual bands or tribes. Your people must be united so that they will work together. THE NATIVE VOICE should act as a cement to bind together the various groups in the parts of the Province. For of this reason alone we feel your publication is a most timely one and a great step in the right direction. As a Society we will do all we can to make THE NATIVE VOICE known. We hope that the issue of your paper may be received by November 30th so that it can be presented at the open meeting on that date. Our aim is to bring public notice to the needs and talents of your people, to what is fine and useful of the and to help develop the talent of your Native Sons and Daughters who should push forward at a time which is now so opportune.

B.C. INDIAN ARTS AND WELFARE SOCIETY,  
Per G. Clifford Carl,  
President

## A Message From CCF Party Leader Harold Winch

The CCF welcomes the publication of "The Native Voice." Native Brotherhood of British Columbia is to be congratulated on this forward step.

The paper will undoubtedly play an important role in bringing about closer understanding between the native people and white citizens. It will be a spearhead toward the goal of full citizenship rights for the native peoples.

The CCF has consistently fought for greater consideration and opportunities for native Indians. Some gains have been made in many more are yet to be won. The Native Voice of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia can be assured of the fullest operation and active support of the CCF in seeing to it that at the earliest possible time, the making of Indians of this province recognize not only the opportunity of obtaining the educational and economic advantages of the country but the full rights of citizens which justice and equity demand must be granted along with responsibility.



# GREETINGS

## FROM THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

### REVISION OF INDIAN ACT

I am glad to send the Native Brotherhood of B.C. some mark of appreciation of the good they can do for our Indian people.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
W. M. DUKE,  
Archbishop of Vancouver.

Some time in the interests of the Indian people of Canada the Dominion Government has under consideration a revision of the Indian Act which was put into operation some sixty years ago to which the last important amendments were made in 1927. It is formulated to include all Indians in Canada and for that reason it could not remain stationary. The Act required revision at certain periods as the different groups advanced more than others in education and progress.

Consequently a joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons was appointed on May 13, 1945, to make recommendations on the revision of the Act and to report to the Indian Administration in Canada and with special reference to certain specific problems affecting the Indian people.

The committee began its work on May 28, 1945. It will continue to make recommendations on all matters that have been considered. Its work will include the study of the reports of the Indian Department, the recommendations of the Indians themselves and the suggestions of others interested in the welfare of the Indian people.

Without doubt the Parliamentary Committee having such an opportunity to acquire all necessary information from the reliable sources will, after investigation, bring about a needed revision of the Indian Act and thus help all the people of Canada.

Canadian people as a whole are aware of the urgent need for a full and better economic condition for our fellow Indian citizens in our country so rich in all that it can give to permit a prosperous and happy life in our land.

It can be brought about easily by giving better educational facilities for Indian children that they can qualify for leadership among their own people. Every opportunity to acquire the school of their choice should be accorded to the Indian child.

There will also be studied carefully by the members of the Committee some method better than the one now existing to give the Indian people the franchise without sacrificing what they call their natural rights. Rights, namely, to hunt and fish, they have inherited from their forefathers. They cling to and wish to preserve their own natural heritage of freedom.

While the Native Brotherhood by which the Indian people have been assisted to take advantage of the privileges and to assume the obligations of the Canadian way of life, can further help them to own cause and their people making more familiar to them the Cooperative Movement, has already aided them in their own cause and has helped so many other Canadian citizens throughout our fair Dominion.

W. M. DUKE,  
Archbishop of Vancouver.

## FROM THE FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Editor, "The Native Voice"

Dear Sir,—On behalf of the President of the United Church of Canada in British Columbia, the Rev. Robert Morrison, B.A., of Kamloops, the Rev. Bunt, Superintendent of Missions, and myself as past President of the Conference of British Columbia, we extend to the Editor of the "Native Voice" our congratulations and best wishes. We trust that through the medium of the printed word our natives may be inspired to rise and respond to the wise leadership which will be given in their highest moral, economical, cultural and social interests. We trust that it will be a united voice and that it will be heard, not only in the Councils of the Nations, but among all people of goodwill, who will be inspired to plan and work together for the best interests of our Native people in British Columbia and the Dominion of Canada.

Yours sincerely,  
ANDREW RODDAN.

## FROM THE ANGLICAN CHURCH

The publication of "The Native Voice" should lead to what all good Canadians desire, fuller understanding and mutual respect between all the peoples which comprise Canada. In a true democracy minorities have their place and contribution.

Nearly a hundred years ago the policy of Sashiatan and David Spintum, chiefs of the northern Salish tribe of Indians, was for harmony between the Naives and the newcomers; in consequence the new social, agricultural and commercial culture, which the latter brought, was studied and gradually adopted. Much advance has been made and there now are many who have proved their title to inclusion in the political unity of British Columbia as in Ontario.

We of the Anglican Church believe in an all-embracing Christian Brotherhood, and on its behalf I am glad to have the opportunity to welcome and bid God-speed to the efforts which the new paper will make.

WATTS KOOTENAY,  
Archbishop and Metropolitan of British Columbia.

## PROMINENT COLUMNIST GREET

### "THE NATIVE VOICE"

By ELMORE PHILPOTT

There have been many proofs lately of the reawakening of the native North Americans—that is, the Indians who live in Canada. Almost entirely due to the agitation by the Indians themselves, the government has agreed to the rewriting of the long obsolete Indian Act. Indians are receiving Family Allowances, and also veterans' rehabilitation benefits. True, in both those cases, there is still some discrimination but things are moving the right way.

One of the most beneficial results of the awakening of the Indian people themselves has been the effect on the Indian Agents and the Indian Affairs department. It never was true that Indian Agents, in general, were indifferent or hostile to the needs or aims of the people over whom they were given such responsibility by the Act. As in all other walks of life, there were good agents and bad ones. The main trouble was that the system had outlived its usefulness.

Surely the recent meeting in Vancouver of all the Western Indian Agents was an event of the most far reaching significance. It was proof that the awakening of the Indian people has stirred the Agents to a realization that they must be "on their toes."

It is significant that it is an alert Indian Agent who has posed one of the most revealing cases of these times. The Nanaimo School Board has so far rejected his application to permit the attendance at one rural school of a few Indian children. The reason given is surely most remarkable—"that it would retard the progress of the white children."

Attendance of Indian youngsters at ordinary schools would no more retard general progress than would attendance of "white" children at Indian schools. It would benefit everybody.

When Canada gets that long overdue Bill of Rights, which John

Diefenbaker, Conservative M.P., is so commendably promoting, one provision should be the right of every child in Canada to be adequately educated—without regard to racial origin, mother tongue, or color.

The future of the Native (Indian) people will be decided by themselves. If the young men and women, especially, use the opportunities they can have to get themselves freely, the original inhabitants of this country can make a "come back" that would have seemed impossible to some faint-hearts a few years ago.

In two world wars, and in a hundred walks of peace-time life, the Indian people have shown that they have capacities, developed or latent, quite as high as those of any other people on earth.

Keep your eye on the native North American Indian—especially in Canada. He is not "all through." He is going to get his "second wind" soon. And when he does, he is going right up to the front rank among all the peoples.

Now the natives themselves propose to publish their own paper. It will be called The Native Voice. In the beginning the paper will cater chiefly to the Indians of British Columbia, through the wide-awake Native Brotherhood. But there is an excellent chance the publication will extend right across the nation. Certainly there is a crying need for such a voice.

## From the IWA District President

International Woodworkers of America C.I.O. District No. 1 welcomes the official organ of the Native Brotherhood of B.C. On behalf of our membership we pledge our continued cooperation in assisting the Native Indian population to meet and solve their problems.

With best fraternal greetings,  
Harold Pritchett,  
District President.

## From M. S. Todd, Indian Agent

Alert Bay, B.C.,  
Nov. 9, 1946.

Chief Wm. Scow, President,  
Native Brotherhood of  
British Columbia.

Dear Sir:

It is with a great deal of pleasure I address this brief message to the membership of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia, particularly to members of the Kwakwaka'wakw Nation.

Your decision to establish and publish a newspaper in the interest of the Native People is a momentous step forward, and deserves the fullest support of all.

A great heritage was passed on to you by your forefathers. Guard and preserve it in harmony with the age in which we live.

Far too long your people have remained the silent race of this great land of ours. A great leader once said, "Those who speak loud and often, tempered with justice and a righteous conviction, eventually succeed." Your publication gives you that medium. May you succeed in every particular.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate your executive and wish you every success in your new field of endeavor.

Yours faithfully,  
M. S. TODD,  
Indian Agent,  
Kwakwaka'wakw Agency.

## Indian Agents of British Columbia

J. V. Boys, Hazelton.  
J. A. Findlay (acting) Bella Coola.  
R. H. Moore, Duncan.  
S. K. Bruce (acting), Kamloops.  
J. S. Dunn, Cranbrook.  
M. S. Todd, Alert Bay.  
A. Strang, Lytton.  
F. Earl Anfield, Prince Rupert.  
J. Gillett, New Westminster.  
A. H. Barber, Vernon.  
B. T. Phillips, Massett.  
R. H. S. Sampson, Telegraph Creek.  
R. Howe, Vanderhoof.  
H. E. Taylor, 416 Federal Bldg., Vancouver.  
N. W. Garrard (acting), Alberni.  
Wm. Christie, Williams Lake.  
G. E. Sharpe, Merritt.

## From the Minister of Veteran Affairs

To the Editor,  
The Native Voice.

Best wishes for the success of your new periodical. The splendid services rendered by members of the native races of North America to Canada and to the cause of the United Nations in the recent war is greatly appreciated by the whole country.

Our rehabilitation program for former members of the forces has been specially modified in certain particulars to ensure that its benefits shall be available to members of the native races.

I am sure that your periodical will render a useful service to the community which it is designed especially to serve.

Yours Sincerely,  
Ian A. Mackenzie,  
Minister of Veterans Affairs.

## From U.F. and A.W.U. Chinese

Native Brotherhood of B.C.,  
Holden Building,  
16 E. Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Friends:  
Indeed it is a great pleasure a privilege to convey to you greetings and good wishes from the Chinese membership of the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union upon the birth of your official organ, "The Native Voice." May this occasion be marked the beginning of greater success for your organization, which has well represented your people in the province of British Columbia.

Your organization, in recent years, has demonstrated ability leading your fellow-countrymen the struggle for improved living standards—a lofty aim which is longer just something for the common people the world over to desire, but something for which work. Now with the publication of an official paper, you will unquestionably be in a better position to press for further achievements toward that end. Thus, the news "The Native Voice" being born not only good news to your people but also to all the progressives who fight to better the lot of the working man.

The problems that confront you people today are the same problems confronting every working man and woman, regardless of race, color or creed. We must face them and solve them together. The fishing industry where the Chinese, Indian and the English speaking people work alongside one another, we find in our experience that only by working close and co-operatively can we cope with these problems more fully and effectively. This spirit of fraternal co-operation has proved beyond the shadow of a doubt to be superlative insofar as it works in our industry is concerned. "The Native Voice" can render a useful and distinct service by freely and constantly strengthening this point.

Fraternalty yours,  
ALF. QUAN,  
Chinese Organizer,  
United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union.

## ACROSS THE BORDER

A recent ceremony took place recently at Prince Rupert which displayed the close relationship existing between the United States of America and Canada.

The important occasion marked the dedication of a park that was named after that great world leader, the late Franklin D. Roosevelt.

It is interesting to note that the international character of the proceedings was marked by the inclusion of our beloved Honorary Vice-President, Heber Clifton, who represented the original people of Canada.

The program was conducted under the chairmanship of Col. D. Johnston, D.S.O., V.D., who the dedication prayer was conducted by The Reverend J. Carr O.M.I., while the dedication itself which included the unveiling of the cairn, was performed by I. Worship, Mayor H. M. Dagget. Accepting the dedication for the United States was Maj. George P. Hays, U.S.A., who represented for the occasion General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The principal speakers were Brig. E. C. Plow, D.S.O., D.O. Military District II; Mr. Howard K. Travers, representing the U.S. Secretary of State; Mr. Olaf Hanson, representing the Dominion Government; Mr. Patrick J. Conmore, representing the Territory of Alaska; Hon. E. T. Kennedy, M.L.A., representing the province of British Columbia and New Scotland, and Mr. Heber L. Clifton representing the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia.

The closing prayer was conducted by the Reverend A. F. M. Sween.



# YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

By LIN BROWN

Field Worker in Co-operatives, Extension Dept., U.B.C.

Once more I have been asked to speak to you, this time through the medium of your own paper, "The Native Voice," congratulations to all the members of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood who had the vision and the energy to bring this paper into being. Those members are worthy of all the praise, the encouragement, and all the help which we can give them.

Let me go back just for a moment to that Annual Convention at Alert Bay in 1945. That was the first time I was asked to speak to you. Actually it was my first opportunity to become acquainted with any Native people. There I learned something of your problems, your ideals, and your yearnings for a better life. There I met the late Alfred Adams, one of the best perfect Christian gentlemen I have ever known.

Since that time I have had little time to do more than stop into the Brotherhood office occasionally to ask how things were going and renew friendships I had made at Alert Bay. Therefore, considering it an unusual honour when I was asked to speak to you again at our Port Simpson Convention this year. Now I would like to speak to you about your opportunities.

## YOUR BROTHERHOOD

Your first opportunity is the Brotherhood. By concerted effort you can do much to improve your own conditions. Build the Brotherhood, and the Sisterhood. (Never let me forget to point out the importance of women in social progress!) Give to the building of your organization your time, your money and your enthusiasm. The Young Maori Party was first organized in New Zealand by a group of idealistic young natives. They spent a great deal of their own time and money going from village to village preaching. One of their leaders said later: "It was sufficient for us that our people were dirty, idle, drunken, and immoral; we would teach them how to become clean, industrious, sober, and virtuous." This first effort at organization failed because the old men would not listen to new ideas.

## "YOUR VOICE"

Your second opportunity is "The Native Voice." It is the voice of your organization calling all its members closer together. Through these pages you will get to know one another, and then you will be better prepared to solve the problems which face all of you. Through these pages you will learn the efforts which are being made

to improve conditions of your people of agreements with canneries, or co-operative marketing of products.

But your paper cannot do the job which it should unless every one of us help. We must not only help by selling subscriptions but also by sending in stories, ideas and news reports. Here is a real opportunity for you to express your ideas, to make known your problems, and to share with others your plans for a better life.

## YOURSELF

Your third opportunity is in your own ability to co-operate and work together. Long before white men visited this coast the Native peoples were living and working together. Your whole history and tradition has been one of close co-operation. White men have to learn co-operation the Native peoples of this coast come by naturally. We should build upon that foundation.

How shall we do this? By first of all learning all we can of how co-operation is being used in all parts of the world, scientifically and legally, to help people do business for themselves on a democratic, non-profit basis. People of every nationality and color are organizing to supply themselves with everything from groceries to gasoline, from banks to blankets.

There are stories of small efforts like the Native village in the United States which planted a co-operative potato field and built a root house. There are stories of great successes such as the Maori tribe in New Zealand which operates an enormous dairy farm co-operatively. Back of this latter story lies the reorganization of the Young Maori Party on a more practical basis and the support of the old men for young ideas. The Party was trying to start industries that would best suit the soil and location of each tribe. In one tribe the young men gathered the old-timers together and explained that dairy farming would bring more secure income than they had received in the past. This time the old men said: "these are not our ways, but we sent you to college to learn

## Food Quiz

Question: 1. What foods help us to keep healthy?

Answer: 1. Canada's rules for "Good Eating" tell us—

- a—Drink milk every day. Children—1 quart. Mothers and fathers—1 pint.
- b—Eat cereal (cooked porridge) and brown bread every day.
- c—Eat vegetables every day.
- d—Eat fruit or berries every day.
- e—Eat meat or fish or eggs or cheese or beans every day.
- f—Take some cod liver oil or halbut liver oil. Babies and children should have it every day.

Question: 2. What is the most important food?

Answer: 2. Milk is best food or drink ever found anywhere in the world. It helps to build strong muscles and good bones and teeth. It gives us pep and energy at the same time.

## HONORABLE MENTION

Our sincere greetings and thanks go out in this our first issue to Miss Minnie Sankey, age 16 years, who is a patient at Miller Bay Hospital, Prince Rupert, B.C. The young lady happens to have been the first subscriber to THE NATIVE VOICE.

We are indeed proud of the fact that although Minnie is ill in hospital, she shows a deep interest in the affairs of her own Native people.

It is hoped that the rest of us will wake up and follow her example towards showing a more direct

new ways, go ahead." The stories of these efforts and a thousand more like them are available to any who wish to learn. Books and pamphlets which tell not only the stories but explain the step-by-step method of achieving success are waiting for you right here in the Extension Department of the University of British Columbia. They are yours for the asking. Our job is to make available to all the people of this province all the knowledge they could possibly ask for. Ask for it. Write to us here: "Co-operative Division," Extension Dept., University of B.C., Vancouver.

# NATIVE CANADIANS

(The following is merely the table of contents of a brief by our good friends from the Okanagan. In later issues the contents of their brief will be further discussed.—Editor.)

## Table of Contents

The approach of Canadians to the Indian; Analysis of deficiencies in present conditions; Improvements in the United States in the last ten years; Short-term improvements suggested for Canada; Long term suggestions for solution of the whole problem.

## Short-term Plans

1. Indian relief on the same basis as whites.
2. Old age and other similar pensions to Indians on same basis as white.
3. More money for food at Residential Schools.
4. More money for hospital care, particularly for maternity.
5. Infiltration of whites on hunting preserves checked through licensing system.
6. Indians employed as Game Wardens.
7. Provisions of the Veterans' Act.

direct interest by subscribing or helping in every possible way YOUR NATIVE VOICE to achieve the mighty task ahead in voicing the special problems for the benefit of ALL CANADIAN INDIANS.

Land Act of 1942 open to re-examine Indians.

## Long-Term Plans

1. A new Indian Act to replace the Act of 1868.
2. Reorganization of the Affairs Branch to make it more in philosophy and administrative practices to that of the States.
3. Decentralization of Administration.
4. Self-government on the reserves.
5. Full citizenship with its rights.
6. The administration freed from exploiting interests.
7. A modern system of education established on much the same lines as the regular public systems.
8. A system of adequate vocational training.
9. A new approach to health care, its placing under provincial authority.
10. More hospitals.
11. The economic security of Indians secured through far-reaching long-term planning, and establishment of cooperative undertakings in such lines as livestock, farming, canning, raising, etc.
12. Freedom of speech, assembly and particularly religion.
13. A Royal Commission to inquire into the whole Indian situation.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA CANNED SALMON PACK BULLETIN, 1946

	To Nov 9 1946	1945 to Nov. 10	1944 Final	1943 to Nov. 13	1942 to Nov. 14
<b>SOCKEYE</b>					
All Districts	542,839	328,926	247,636	164,860	664,884
<b>SPRINGS</b>					
All Districts	8,041	12,573	19,327	10,621	22,809
<b>STEELHEADS</b>					
All Districts	4,105	2,811	3,921	3,096	4,588
<b>BLUEBACKS</b>					
All Districts	2,914	6,661	12,464	14,067	23,254
<b>COHO</b>					
All Districts	96,337	211,608	168,212	171,840	187,341
<b>PINKS</b>					
All Districts	116,411	823,374	391,129	529,198	269,222
<b>CHUMS</b>					
All Districts	561,185	343,742	252,166	333,278	601,497
<b>Ttals., all districts</b>	<b>1,324,832</b>	<b>1,729,697</b>	<b>1,094,855</b>	<b>1,226,961</b>	<b>1,773,597</b>

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# THE "INDIAN ACT"

(Continued from Page 1)

Committee, therefore, with regard to that particular subject-matter of our Orders of Reference;

5. That the Director of Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, in conjunction with the Civil Service Commission and the Treasury Board, take immediate steps to fill such vacant key posts as Indian Agents and such other vacancies in Indian Affairs Branch which, in the public interest, must be filled forthwith;

6. That the establishment for Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, be increased to provide for the appointment of at least two Indian Agents at Large;

7. That consideration be given by the Civil Service Commission to the desirability of placing additional classifications of the Indian Affairs Field Staff under the provisions of the Civil Service Act;

## 8. That more direct methods be employed for the return of rentals collected on behalf of Indian lessees;

9. That the Indian Affairs Branch immediately undertake the drafting of plans: (1) for the construction of such additional accommodation as is necessary to relieve the present over-crowding in certain Indian day schools; (2) to provide for the construction of such other Indian day schools as, in the opinion of the said Branch, are needed;

10. That as benefits have accrued to many Indians as a result of Fur Conservation and Development work undertaken by the Indian Affairs Branch, steps be taken to extend the fur conservation and development programme into those provinces into which it has not yet been introduced.

A copy of the minutes of proceedings and evidence taken before the Committee is appended. All of which is respectfully submitted.

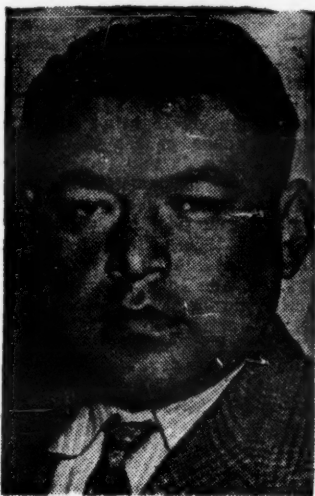
J. FRED JOHNSTON,  
DON. F. BROWN,  
Joint Chairmen.

(†) Orders of Reference:  
Senate: 16th May, 1946;  
Commons: 13th May, 1946.

Adoption: Senate, 19th August, 1946.

Concurrence: Commons, 17th August, 1946.

Subscribe TODAY to  
"THE NATIVE VOICE"



Guy R. Williams, Kitamaat, B.C., Southern Business Agent, the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia.

## YOUR ORGANIZATION AND YOUR "VOICE"

GUY R. WILLIAMS

Greetings to you all, Sisters and Brothers; on our first publication, as one of the directors of THE NATIVE VOICE the official organ of The Native Brotherhood of B.C., referred to by the Department of Indian Affairs at Ottawa as the largest and most democratic Indian organization in Canada. That's information for you my friends in the distant and remote parts of the province, in traplines, pole camps, logging camps, mining camps and to our thousands of commercial fishermen on the coast.

(The Native Brotherhood of B.C. is not affiliated or connected with the North American Indian Brotherhood.)

In this new field of endeavor we will not succeed unless you take a full interest and participation in supplying us with current news and goings-on in your territory. In your different localities this paper will be a medium of getting our people acquainted with one another as Bands and will help build

# THE INDIAN ACTS

(Continued from Page 1)

The new realm of endeavor in presenting the NATIVE VOICE will not review what the people of Canada through their elected Government did not do in the past, but will however explain our plight in as far as we see it and ask for the full support of the Canadian people.

The citizens of British Columbia have not shown a direct concern about our welfare in the past and the NATIVE VOICE is being printed for all people to lend a helping hand to bring about a change in the living conditions that hold back an advanced mode of life for the original Canadian. The NATIVE VOICE will not be too concerned about the laxity of the British Columbia peoples in the past, but we will press forward our aims to release all prejudices against the Natives of British Columbia.

The time is not far distant when we will play an integral part in the affairs of Canada and we will play that important role as free citizens of the Dominion.

We hope that it is understood by all, that we mean to go forward with the help of the citizens of British Columbia to reach that status where the Native Canadian will be really understood and have a rightful place in society, living as free democratic citizens.

That the NATIVE VOICE will be the means of uniting into one solid body the Natives of Canada by keeping them in touch with affairs relating to our people.

We have no equality with other Canadians except when the call to Arms or the Tax Collector comes.

It is to change that state of affairs that the Native Voice appears.

and mould a bigger and "better" Brotherhood and compel the dealing with our many grievances on equal footing with the powers and with one Voice of united action.

THROUGH THE COLUMNS OF THE NATIVE VOICE WE WILL LEARN ONE ANOTHER'S PROBLEMS AND NEEDS.

That will bring about more satisfactory changes for our people and will from time to time show the public where the powers have gone out of bounds beyond their jurisdiction on certain regulations and laws affecting our people who are Wards of The Crown . . . Minors . . . yet on different occasions have been forced to be just as responsible as any other National in OUR country, yet we do not receive any social benefits which are enjoyed by the citizens

of Canada. Our Native people are a good source of income to Revenue departments.

We will not get these rights which we have coming to us unless we ask for it in a loud Voice and that is just what The Native Brotherhood of B.C. is doing. This paper will contain several features for the interest of our ranchers and agricultural friends. At the moment we are asking you to name the column. I suggest ROUND UP but you people decide. Let's hear from you. For the fishermen on the coast we will carry fishing and cannery news also the activities of our native owned fish boats known as FISHERIES TALES. For the special benefit of our good white subscribers we will try to carry legends, customs and traditions of the Native People.

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## The Voice Of Gan-o-Ghet

By GEORGINA MURISON

Gan-o-ghet is an idealistic name of a grand old Indian Chief in Hazelton of the Babine Country. With his permission I'd like to use this as the theme heading for my column. All my efforts are of an idealistic nature, though, mind you, I intend to worry those ideals and bring them to a head. The more attention they attract, the better pleased I shall be. Gan-o-ghet, I know, would reiterate my voice in this column, and with my sincere thanks to that grand old man, I'll get on.

And as yet, this is just a tentative column, and I should appreciate anything you wish to say, for or in it. All are welcome to write, and I promise all letters will be carefully read, digested if necessary, and duly answered. Let's hear from all of you. Especially, too, from my friends in the North around the Babine Country, such as Hazelton, Kispiox, Glen Vowell, Agwilget, Kitwanga, Kitsegukla, Kitwano, Moricetown, and the Port Babine Reserves in and around Burns Lake. My feelings are personalized around the Babine Agency, having spent two years there amongst the Natives, and I regret not having the opportunity of meeting the Natives of her reserves on the Coast and Interior. But if they write me, it will not take long to get to know you all. To all of you let me say, at where a voice is needed to bring about any of your wants, needs and general uplift—let us hear from you, and the Voice will be all in its power to help you.

However, as this is the first issue of the NATIVE VOICE and space at a premium at this time, I can only promise that I will keep in touch with all my friends through this column in following issues. Before closing, one really encouraging item that should bring our courage high and our heads down shame—a little girl of about years, lying ill in bed with tuberculosis in the Millar Bay Hospital near Prince Rupert, was the first person to send in her subscription for the Native Voice. This paper is going to Minnie Inkey with all our best wishes and heartfelt thanks for her generous contribution. The Editor gained additional courage to think that not all of his people felt mobile about the Native Voice.

So much for the first edition, ends; so long till the next one. Yours, in hope for an assurance of freedom for your posterity.



Herbert Cook, Alert Bay, B.C., General Secretary, the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia.

## NORTH COAST NEWS

### SKEENA NEWS

The salmon fishing season for 1946 is over. Some had a fair season but in the main it was not what they had hoped for, however, that is what makes the fishing game a gamble. With the high prices prevailing, had there been any salmon it would have been a banner year.

There will be many recommendations brought to the attention of the next Brotherhood convention for a study and improvement of fishing conditions. Every branch concerned in salmon fishing should give the matter careful consideration.

### NASS RIVER

The Aiyansh Y.M.C.A. brought their box lacrosse team very much to the front during their recent showing at Prince Rupert and it is hoped that other Native teams will enter this sport which seems to be dying out among the Indians, the originators of the game. Special mention must be made of the efforts to promote interest among the natives in the northern area by Indian Agent F. E. Anfield, Prince Rupert; J. A. Findlay, Esq., Acting Indian Agent at Bella Coola, while the B.C. Lacrosse Promotion Association has recorded their willingness to do their share in the way of supplying sticks and other equipment to any Indian settlement where there is a suitable hall available to carry on the sport.

## ARE YOU A TRUE BROTHER?

It is wrong to think of this organization as something that gives and gives and gives to you. This organization is fighting for the very existence of the Natives of British Columbia and Canada. We are fighting for existence and a high standard of living and it is not what you take out of this organization that counts, but what you put into it. It is a war for existence, and like all wars, some will be sacrificed that others may live. The effort you put into building up this organization must be selfless and enduring so that we will win the fight for future generations of Natives.

I know that at times it seems a thankless job and your glory and personal reward may be nil, like the soldier laddie who went willingly "over the top" never to come back, so that others might live in a better world.

This organization has done splendid work and has whenever it could, helped the Natives in trouble, spending hundreds of dollars which will never be paid back to help some unfortunate. Men have sacrificed their jobs and impaired the welfare of their families, losing money by serving and doing the work of the Brotherhood.

Maybe the Organization has at times made mistakes, but the good it has done and is doing, can never be written in mere words or will the true story ever be fully known, except by the few. Its power is growing and the glorious ideals upon which it was founded by those noble Indian founders who were determined to save their people, the true Natives of Canada, determined that they should not die out, but live and come into their own and help to build up and share the magnificent future of the great Dominion of Canada, "Their Own, Their Native Land."

Brother and Sister, get behind the Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood of British Columbia, in their fight for freedom by paying your dues and contributing money.

Maisie Armytage-Moore,  
Honorary Life Member.

## Subscription Form

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